

## Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
WHITE HOUSE

S E C R E T STATE 037093

NODIS  
WHITE HOUSE FOR Z. BRZEZINSKI

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, XF, US, MO

SUBJECT: BRIEFING FOR MOROCCANS ON SADAT VISIT TO  
WASHINGTON

REF: RABAT 861

1. FOLLOWING IS GUIDANCE FOR YOUR FURTHER BRIEFING OF  
MOROCCANS ON THE SADAT VISIT. LEAVE TO YOUR DISCRETION  
WHETHER TO DO THIS WITH BOUCETTA, AS IN EARLIER BRIEFING,  
OR WITH HASSAN, BUT IF FORMER IS CASE PLEASE ASK THAT  
INFORMATION BE CONVEYED TO HASSAN.

2. SUGGEST, IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO, THAT YOU  
FIRST OF ALL PRESENT A COPY OF THE WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT  
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ISSUED FOLLOWING THE PRESIDENT'S FINAL MEETING WITH SADAT  
FEBRUARY 8. THE STATEMENT SETS OUT BASIC POSITIONS ON  
ALL MAJOR ASPECTS OF THE MIDDLE EAST NEGOTIATIONS, I.E.,  
THE NEED FOR NORMAL PEACEFUL RELATIONS, A COMPREHENSIVE  
PEACE, ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL AND THE APPLICABILITY OF RESOLU-  
TION 242 TO ALL FRONTS, RESOLUTION OF THE PALESTINIAN

PROBLEM IN ALL ITS ASPECTS (THE STATEMENT REITERATES THE PRESIDENT'S ASWAN LANGUAGE ON THIS POINT), AND OUR VIEW THAT ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS ARE CONTRARY TO INTERNATIONAL LAW AND A CONTINUATION OF SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY INCONSISTENT WITH

THE PEACE EFFORT. WE REGARD THIS STATEMENT AS AN IMPORTANT REAFFIRMATION OF OUR VIEWS AND HOPE MOROCCANS WILL APPRECIATE IT AS SUCH. IT PROVIDES GUIDELINES FOR OUR CONTINUING DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS AND SHOULD BE HELPFUL TO SADAT AND TO HIS MODERATE SUPPORTERS.

3. AS HASSAN AND BOUCETTA ARE NO DOUBT AWARE, SADAT ARRIVED IN WASHINGTON DISCOURAGED THAT ISRAEL HAS NOT BEEN MORE RESPONSIVE TO HIS JERUSALEM INITIATIVE. HE WAS PARTICULARLY FRUSTRATED BY THE ISRAELI POSITION ON RETENTION OF SETTLEMENTS IN SINAI AND BY ISRAEL'S UNWILLINGNESS THUS FAR TO AGREE TO MORE FORTHCOMING LANGUAGE ON THE PALESTINIAN ISSUE IN THE PROPOSED DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES.

4. AS A RESULT OF HIS TALKS WITH PRESIDENT CARTER AND OTHER ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS, SADAT HAS LEFT WITH RENEWED DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE THE PEACE PROCESS AND WITH REASSURANCE THAT WE UNDERSTAND HIS CONCERNS AND ARE DETERMINED TO REMAIN FULLY AND ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN THE NEGOTIATING EFFORT. ON TAKING LEAVE FROM PRESIDENT CARTER, SADAT STATED THAT HE IS RETURNING TO EGYPT DETERMINED TO

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PERSEVERE IN THE EFFORT FOR PEACE. IN HIS TALKS WITH SADAT, THE PRESIDENT SPENT CONSIDERABLE TIME EXPLAINING THE US VIEW OF HOW THE NEGOTIATIONS ARE LIKELY TO EVOLVE. HE POINTED OUT THAT IT IS ONLY REALISTIC TO EXPECT THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS TO REQUIRE DETAILED DISCUSSIONS AND TO ENCOUNTER TEMPORARY DELAYS AND DISAPPOINTMENTS. BEGIN IS DEALING WITH A COMPLEX POLITICAL SITUATION IN ISRAEL, AND TIME IS NEEDED FOR ISRAELI OPINION TO ADJUST TO THE NEW CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED BY SADAT'S INITIATIVE. FROM THIS PERSPECTIVE, BEGIN'S SINAI PROPOSAL AND WEST BANK/GAZA PLAN REPRESENT EVOLUTION IN ISRAELI THINKING, EVEN THOUGH THEY FALL SHORT OF ARAB REQUIREMENTS. WHILE EXPLAINING THIS, THE PRESIDENT MADE CLEAR THAT THE US REMAINS FULLY COMMITTED TO HELPING THE PARTIES MAKE TANGIBLE PROGRESS IN THE WEEKS IMMEDIATELY AHEAD AND TO PREVENTING THE NEGOTIATIONS FROM BOGGING DOWN.

5. AS NOTED IN EARLIER MESSAGE, THE PRESIDENT AND SADAT AGREED THAT, IN CONTINUATION OF THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS, ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON WOULD RETURN TO THE MIDDLE EAST IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO PURSUE THE WORK ALREADY UNDERWAY

ON A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES. THE TWO PRESIDENTS VIEW SUCH A DECLARATION AS AN IMPORTANT STEP IN ESTABLISHING THE FRAMEWORK FOR A COMPREHENSIVE PEACE IN THE AREA AND AS PROVIDING A BASIS FOR BROADENING PARTICIPATION IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. SADAT CONTINUES TO ATTACH IMPORTANCE TO

SEEING JORDAN AND MODERATE PALESTINIANS JOIN THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME. (YOU MAY CONFIRM THIS IS WHAT IS MEANT, SO FAR AS THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE IS CONCERNED, BY THE PHRASE "BROADENING OF NEGOTIATIONS" - PARA 2 REFTTEL.) SADAT TOOK THE POSITION THAT A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES SHOULD PRECEDE FORMAL RESUMPTION OF WORK IN THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE. WE DISCUSSED WITH SADAT THE DESIRABILITY OF ATHERTON'S BEGINNING, AT THE SAME TIME HE CONTINUES NEGOTIATIONS ON THE DECLARATION, TO EXPLORE  
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QUIETLY AND INFORMALLY WITH EGYPT, ISRAEL AND JORDAN POSSIBLE GUIDELINES FOR NEGOTIATING INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE WEST BANK AND GAZA - I.E., BEGINNING IN OTHER WORDS TO LOOK BEYOND THE DECLARATION TO WHAT IT MIGHT MEAN IN MORE SPECIFIC TERMS. SADAT AGREED TO CONSIDER THESE IDEAS.

6. ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER DAYAN WILL BE IN WASHINGTON FOR TALKS ON FEBRUARY 16, AND ATHERTON WILL DEPART FOR THE MIDDLE EAST SHORTLY THEREAFTER.

7. WOULD LIKE YOU TO GET ACROSS, IN THE COURSE OF THE CONVERSATION, THAT WE CONSIDER HASSAN'S SUPPORT FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS IMPORTANT AND VERY MUCH HOPE WE CAN COUNT ON HIS CONTINUED BACKING. IN PARTICULAR WE HOPE THAT THE GOM WILL CONSIDER CAREFULLY THE POSSIBLE IMPACT ON THE NEGOTIATIONS OF PUBLIC STATEMENTS MOROCCAN LEADERS MAY MAKE AND WILL GIVE THE NEGOTIATIONS THEIR SUPPORT BOTH IN THEIR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE UTTERANCES. FYI. HASSAN'S STATEMENT IN JANUARY THAT SADAT'S INITIATIVE BELONGED TO HISTORY AND IMPLICATION IN HIS REMARKS THAT ALL ARABS SHOULD JOIN FORCES IN RENEWED STRUGGLE AGAINST ISRAEL CREATED A NEGATIVE IMPRESSION IN ISRAEL AND WAS DISTINCTLY UNHELPFUL. END FYI. AS THE PRESIDENT TOLD SADAT, DELAYS AND DIFFICULTIES WILL INEVITABLY BE A PART OF THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS. SADAT HAS PLEDGED TO PERSEVERE. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT HIS FRIENDS IN THE ARAB WORLD SUPPORT HIM IN THIS RESOLVE.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

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